STINSON BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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Brian Crawford
Director Community Development
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903
bcrawford@marincounty.org

Supervisor Steve Kinsey, 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 skinsey@marincounty.org

Dear Director Crawford and Supervisor Kinsey:

As concerned leaders of a variety of community organizations and businesses along the coast, we urge all West Marin residents to educate themselves about imminent changes to Marin County's Local Coastal Program, and to rally against changes being forced upon us by the staff of the Coastal Commission. If you own a home or property along the coast, your rights to rebuild, maintain and potentially ever sell it are very likely at risk. These changes will likely be imposed on Marin County at the upcoming CCC vote on Wednesday, November 2nd.

Marin County has twice in the past two years attempted to submit an update of its LCP to the Coastal Commission. The County created these drafts following more than a dozen meetings over several years with concerned community members, and following a coastal-wide survey of impacted residents which garnered hundreds of responses supporting the County's proposals. Both times, these Board-approved drafts were simply redlined out of existence by CCC staff, replaced wholesale with sections that would make it practically impossible to meet permitting standards anywhere in Stinson Beach west of Highway One, along most of Tomales Bay, and in many sections of Bolinas, Muir Beach and Dillon Beach. Hundreds of houses would become unmaintainable, with the long term result likely being the gradual disappearance of our communities as we know them.

When CCC staff attempted last year to rewrite the County's Local Coastal Program, inserting dozens of pages of new regulations created entirely outside of public view and submitted the day prior to the final vote, the County withdrew its submission, following an admonishment to both staffs that they work to find a compromise within the framework of the County's proposals and with further public discussion. Our County has done its part, crafting regulations in concert with our local community organizations and with input from hundreds of local residents. The California Coastal Commission staff has apparently ignored even their own Commissioners, refusing to negotiate with the County or to incorporate feedback from our community groups, and once again has simply replaced the County's regulations with the same previously rejected regulations, the results of which would be a disaster for those of us who live here. You can view their document, a veritable "sea of redlines" replacing Marin's submission, at http://www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/local-coastalprogram

Sincerely,

Sandra Cross,

President of the Board Stinson Beach County Water District